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Remarks

Executive Secretary
14 Nov 85

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85-4523

United States Senate select committee on intelligence

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Nevember 12 1005

November 12, 1985

IN RESPONSE PLEASE REFER TO 85-3842

The Honorable William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bill:

ROBERT DOLE, KANSAB, EX OFFICIO ROBERT C. BYRD, WEST VIRGINIA, EX OFFICIO

BERNARD F. McMAHON, STAFF DIRECTOR

ERIC D. NEWSOM, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

The Select Committee will continue its hearings on counterintelligence and security with a session on November 20, 1985, at 9:30 a.m. in Room SH-219 of the Hart Senate Office Building. We would like to concentrate on personnel and information security at this hearing.

Earlier this year, concern about the Walker espionage case led to the establishment of the Defense Department Security Review Commission, chaired by General Richard Stilwell, and a task force on information security formed by the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office, Steven Garfinkel. We understand that these studies have been completed and would like to have General Stilwell and Mr. Garfinkel present their findings and recommendations at this hearing. Both studies are likely to have significant national policy implications.

In preparing a joint agenda for action on cooperation with the Administration, we will also benefit from learning the views of various elements of the Executive Branch. In particular, we would like to have representatives of the Defense Department and the intelligence community present whatever views they may have on these issues. Any other views the Administration wishes to have considered, such as from representatives of the Office of Personnel Management or the Department of Justice, are also welcome.

As we testified before the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations last month, the Select Committee has been considering the need for a comprehensive and integrated security program to protect the information and activities that have the



The Honorable William J. Casey November 12, 1985 Page Two

greatest strategic importance. A permanent structure for planning and analysis could be a focal point for the various overlapping forums that now divide responsibility for security policy. We see merit in the proposal of the Commission on Government Security nearly thirty years ago to abolish the "confidential" classification. We are also looking at more stringent personnel security requirements for positions with access to the most sensitive information, including regular financial reports; prior notice of all foreign travel; high personal reliability standards enforced by superiors; a clearance policy that selects the most qualified personnel, rather than merely weeding out the worst; and a strong inspection system. We may consider legislation to apply to such positions post-employment obligations and perhaps revised criminal penalties. On the fiscal side, a better balance may be needed between high-cost research on technical security projects and the current funding of research on personnel and information security.

Please let us know as soon as possible the names of those witnesses who will represent the Defense Department and the Intelligence Community, as well as any others the Administration would like us to hear.

Thank you for your help in making the arrangements for

these hearings.

Sincerely,

Dave Durenberger

Chairman

Patrick J. Leahy Vice Chairman